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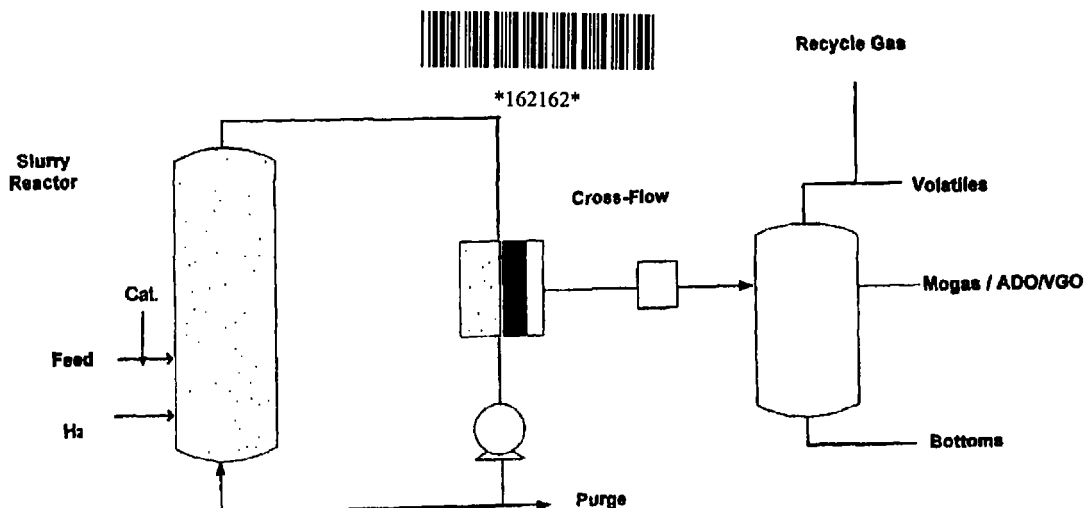
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **SLURRY HYDROPROCESSING FOR HEAVY OIL UPGRADING USING SUPPORTED SLURRY CATALYSTS**



(57) Abstract: A slurry hydroprocessing process (SHP) where a hydrocarbon feedstock is treated at slurry hydrotreating conditions, in the presence of a hydrogen containing treat gas and in the presence of a supported metallic catalyst which is a supported sulfide of a metal selected from the group of non-noble Group VIII metals, Group VIB metals and mixtures thereof where the support is an inorganic oxide and where the catalyst has an average diameter of about 0.5 to about 100 microns to obtain a first product stream comprising the catalyst and a hydroprocessed feedstream; separating the first product into a catalyst-free product stream and a catalyst-containing stream and recycling at least a portion of the catalyst-containing stream back to the hydroprocessing step.

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